



COVID-19

ACT NOW!



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AVOID CROWDS

Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination

Updated Feb. 16, 2021

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Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines

Results from monitoring efforts are reassuring. Some people have no side effects. Many people have reported only mild side effects after COVID-19 vaccination.

What you need to know

- COVID-19 vaccines are **safe and effective**.
- Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines will undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.
- CDC recommends you get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you are eligible.
- Adverse events described on this page have been reported to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#) .
- VAERS accepts reports of any adverse event following vaccination, even if it is not clear the vaccine caused the problem.
- CDC, FDA, and other federal partners will continue to monitor the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Reports of anaphylaxis and death

- **Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 vaccination is rare.** If this occurs, vaccination providers can effectively and immediately treat the reaction.
- To date, VAERS has not detected patterns in cause of death that would indicate a safety problem with COVID-19 vaccines.

Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 vaccination

Severe allergic reactions, including [anaphylaxis](#), can occur after any vaccination.

Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 vaccination is rare. If this occurs, vaccination providers can effectively and immediately treat the reaction.

CDC and FDA scientists have evaluated reports from people who experienced a type of severe allergic reaction—[anaphylaxis](#)—after getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 vaccination is **rare** and occurred in approximately 2 to 5 people per million vaccinated in the United States based on events reported to VAERS. This kind of allergic reaction almost always occurs within 30 minutes after vaccination. Fortunately, vaccination providers have medicines available to effectively and immediately treat patients who experience anaphylaxis following vaccination. [Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines and allergic reactions.](#)

Reports of death after COVID-19 vaccination

- FDA requires vaccination providers to report any death after COVID-19 vaccination to VAERS.
- Reports of death to VAERS following vaccination do not necessarily mean the vaccine caused the death.
- CDC follows up on any report of death to request additional information and learn more about what occurred and to determine whether the death was a result of the vaccine or unrelated.
- **To date, VAERS has not detected patterns in cause of death that would indicate a safety problem with COVID-19 vaccines.**
- CDC, FDA, and other federal partners will continue to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

Over 52 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines were administered in the United States from December 14, 2020, through February 14, 2021. During this time, VAERS received 934 reports of death* (0.0018%) among people who received a COVID-19 vaccine. CDC and FDA physicians review each case report of death as soon as notified and CDC requests medical records to further assess reports. A review of available clinical information including death certificates, autopsy, and medical records findings revealed no link with vaccination. CDC and FDA will continue to investigate reports of adverse events, including deaths, reported to VAERS.

*Includes only reports of death following COVID-19 vaccination in the United States. The previous update (Feb. 7) included both U.S. and international reports of deaths following COVID-19 vaccination to VAERS.

Have you experienced a side effect following COVID-19 vaccination?

You can [report it to VAERS](#) .

More Information

[Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\): COVID-19 vaccine Safety update—January 2021 \(slide deck\)](#)
 [1.19 MB, 56 Pages]

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